

In re Patent Application of:
FLICK
Serial No. 10/648,931
Filing Date: AUGUST 27, 2003

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application, for allowing Claims 11-16, and for identifying allowable subject matter in Claims 2, 3, 9, 21, 24, 25, and 31. Independent Claims 1, 17, and 23 have been amended to further define the invention over the prior art references. Dependent Claims 2, 4, 9, 21, 24, 26, and 31 have been amended for consistency. The Examiner is respectfully asked to provide confirmation of consideration of the information disclosure statement filed on November 19, 2003.

The patentability of the claims is discussed in greater detail below. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

I. The Claimed Invention

Amended independent Claim 1, for example, is directed to a pre-warn vehicle security device for a vehicle comprising a data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle. The data communications bus carries data and address information thereover. The vehicle further comprises an alert indicator, and an alarm controller interfacing with the data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle and carrying data and address information. The alarm controller, when in an armed mode, causes the alert indicator to generate an alarm indication responsive to a high security threat level. The pre-warn vehicle security device comprises a pre-warn vehicle security sensor for sensing a security threat level lower than the high security threat level. The pre-warn

In re Patent Application of:
FLICK
Serial No. 10/648,931
Filing Date: AUGUST 27, 2003

vehicle security device further comprises a pre-warn emulator for generating at least one signal on the vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle and carrying data and address information responsive to the pre-warn vehicle security sensor so that the alarm controller causes the alert indicator to generate an emulated pre-warn indication different from the alarm indication. Amended independent Claim 23 is a method counterpart to Claim 1 and includes similar features.

Amended independent Claim 17 is similar to Claim 1 and includes a pre-warn vehicle security device comprising a pre-warn vehicle security sensor for sensing the high security threat level, and for sensing a threat level lower than the high security threat level. The pre-warn vehicle security device further comprises a pre-warn emulator for generating a high security threat level signal on the data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle and carrying data and address information responsive to the sensed high security threat level, and for generating at least one armed mode signal on the data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle and carrying data and address information responsive to the sensed low security threat level so that the alarm controller causes the alert indicator to generate at least one armed mode indication as an emulated pre-warn indication.

In re Patent Application of:

FLICK

Serial No. 10/648,931

Filing Date: AUGUST 27, 2003

II. Claims 1-10 And 17-32 Are Patentable

A. The Hwang/Suman et al. Combination

The Examiner rejected independent Claims 1, 17, and 23 as unpatentable over the Hwang '407 patent (the Hwang patent) in view of the Suman et al. '298 patent (the Suman et al. patent). The Hwang patent discloses a prealarm sensor for a vehicle security system that can generate a pre-alerting signal, which is different than the normal alarm signal. The Examiner correctly notes that the communication line between the prealarm sensor and the main control alarm circuit is not a data communications bus and looks to the Suman et al. patent to provide such.

The Suman et al. patent discloses a data bus 111 including eleven parallel data lines for each one of the inputs 100-110 that are connected to a respective one of eleven input terminals 114. (See Fig. 6A and column 7, lines 37-40). The Suman et al. patent also discloses that the microcontroller 77 includes thirteen output terminals 113 connected by thirteen parallel output conductors 116 to an output interface circuit 115. (See Fig. 6B and column 7, lines 41-43).

In contrast, amended independent Claim 1, for example, includes a vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle for carrying data and address information thereover. The Suman et al. patent fails to disclose such. Amended independent Claims 17 and 23 include features similar to Claim 1.

In re Patent Application of:

FLICK

Serial No. 10/648,931

Filing Date: AUGUST 27, 2003

B. The Hwang/Nykerk Combination

The Examiner rejected independent Claims 1, 17, and 23 as unpatentable over the Hwang '407 patent (the Hwang patent) in view of the Nykerk '285 patent (the Nykerk patent). The Hwang patent is discussed above and the Examiner correctly notes that the communication line between the prealarm sensor and the main control alarm circuit is not a data communications bus and looks to the Nykerk patent to provide such. The Nykerk patent discloses a self-contained alarm system 55 that includes a data bus 64 (See Fig. 4 and column 9, lines 59-63).

In comparison, amended independent Claim 1, for example, includes a vehicle data communications bus extending throughout the vehicle for carrying data and address information thereover. The Nykerk patent fails to disclose such. Amended independent Claims 17 and 23 include features similar to Claim 1.

Accordingly, amended independent Claims 1, 17, and 23 are patentable. The dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing features of the invention, are also patentable, and require no further discussion.

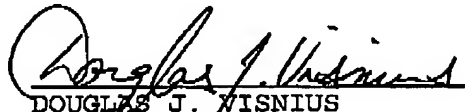
III. CONCLUSIONS

In view of the amendments to the claims and the arguments presented above, it is submitted that all of the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged

In re Patent Application of:
FLICK
Serial No. 10/648,931
Filing Date: AUGUST 27, 2003

to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed
below.

Respectfully submitted,


DOUGLAS J. WISNIUS
Reg. No. 48,012
Allen, Dyer, Doppelt, Milbrath
& Gilchrist, P.A.
255 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 1401
Post Office Box 3791
Orlando, Florida 32802
407-841-2330
407-841-2343 fax
Agent for Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing correspondence has
been forwarded via facsimile number 571-273-8300 to the
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-
1450 this 25th day of August, 2005.

